

Applicant: Utsunomiya, et al.
Serial No.: 09/761,025
Filed: January 16, 2001
May 21, 2003

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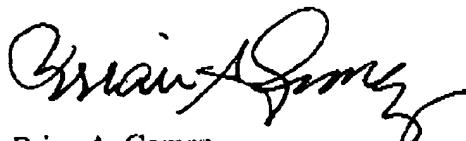
REMARKS

Applicants have canceled claims 1-4 and added new Claims 11-18. Claim 11 defines that the polymer compound is neutralized with an alkali agent, such as an inorganic alkaline compound or an organic amine or ammonium in order to enhance water-solubility and developability. Support for this new claim can be found in lines 12-21 of page 12 of the specification. In addition, X⁺ of the polymer in Claim 11 is restricted to only hydrogen.

Although some of the references cited by the Examiner disclose polymers similar to the polymer used in Claim 11 of the present invention, they do not teach, disclose or suggest water-soluble, water-developable photosensitive composition that contains the polymer compound neutralized with an alkali agent nor do the cited references teach this concept.

In light of the addition of the new Claims along with the above remarks, Claims 11-18 are considered to represent a novel and unobvious advance in the art. Prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowance for these claims is requested. If any issues remain outstanding, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned attorney to expedite their resolution.

Respectfully submitted,



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